

National Service Impact in Ohio

AmeriCorps

Ohio AmeriCorps College Completion Coaches provide guidance and assistance to first-time community college students at Ohio community colleges, helping students achieve higher credit hour accumulation and college completion rates. From 2013 to 2014, 25 AmeriCorps Coaches will assist 2,200 students in developmental education/first year experience classes on 11 campuses. From 2012 to 2013, 738 completed one or more credit hours of developmental education. Of these, 506 students completed all of their attempted developmental education courses and 317 students completed their development education courses AND enrolled into college level courses. Forty-one percent of the students served earned their expected number of first year credits; 410 earned the expected credits for a part-time student and 117 students earned the expected number of first-year credits for a full-time student.

AmeriCorps NCCC

The Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation (YNDC) is a citywide, multifaceted neighborhood development organization launched to catalyze strategic reinvestment in City of Youngstown neighborhoods. AmeriCorps NCCC assisted with YNDC's Lots of Green, Model Blocks, and Vacant Land Stabilization programs. Members removed over 14,900 pounds of debris, worked in three community gardens, and removed over 50 stumps. Members learned about the negative impacts that vacant homes have on communities and the importance of productive land use, as well as how to install hoop houses, construct garden beds, and operate power tools like wood chippers. The community gardens benefit the community by providing healthy food options and the opportunity for citizens to grow their own food.

AmeriCorps VISTA

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, located in Cleveland, sponsors six AmeriCorps VISTA members working on developing and expanding social enterprises. Members work with two enterprises, Metro Metal Works and the Central Kitchen. Metro Metal Works is a six month metal fabrication training program that makes quality and affordable bike racks. Participants receive training with the goal of employment in the fabricating field upon completion of the program. Metro Metal Works' four participants produced 180 bike racks which were installed at Cleveland businesses. Central Kitchen focuses on providing healthy meals to area shelters, and is a six month culinary training program. Central Kitchen's 13 participants provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the shelter, totaling about 800 meals per day. VISTA members raised \$16,000 in grants and local fund raisers.

Senior Corps

RSVP partnered with a local community action program in Marietta to accelerate distribution of monthly commodity boxes for low-income seniors. By securing a distribution facility and recruiting and assigning volunteers, RSVP was able to extend the distribution window from the previous four hours a week to three days with evening hours. Previously, if a senior was sick or otherwise unable to pick up during the allocated four hour distribution time, they forfeited their commodity box for the month. RSVP holds boxes for those unable to attend the distribution or, in instances of illness or handicap, will deliver the box to the client's home. The 26 volunteers served 620 hours, resulting in 267 low-income seniors receiving their commodity boxes.

Social Innovation Fund

With their annual Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grant of one million dollars and their dollar-for-dollar nonfederal matching funds, the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, the Strive Partnership, and other funders will address the needs of low-income children and youth from "cradle to career" in the Greater Cincinnati-area. The United Way of Greater Cincinnati has selected eight nonprofit subgrantees to implement programs in early childhood education and home visitation, mentoring, service learning, arts education, dropout recovery, children's health, college access, and career pathways. The SIF grant builds on years of collaborative work to identify what children and youth in the area need to succeed, measure progress through an annual report card, elevate nonprofit performance through the use of new management tools, and replicate tested programs.